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Labour

Transfer of the management of the Labour schools in Malabar to the district board.

* 687 *Q.*—Mr. H. M. Jagannatham: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Malabar District Board has requested the Government to hand over the management of the Labour schools in Malabar to the district board and, if so, what the Government have done in the matter;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government have already handed over the management of Labour schools in some districts to the respective district boards and, if so, what the districts are in which it has been done;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that it is the declared policy of the Government that separate schools for the depressed classes should not be allowed in places where there are other schools;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that most of the separate Adi-Dravida schools run by the Labour department in Malabar are located very close to other recognized schools;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Government have received representations from the depressed classes of Malabar that these separate Labour schools are militating against the education of Adi-Dravida children in general schools and, if so, what the Government have done in the matter; and

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the Malabar District Board is now going on with a special programme of Adi-Dravida education in general schools and, if so, whether this policy of the board has received the support of the Government?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The Government have informed the District Board that the time is not ripe for complying with their request as the Labour Department has not completed its work in any particular area.

(*b*) Yes. The labour schools in some of the taluks in the districts of Tinnevelly, Coimbatore, Chittoor, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Guntur, East Godavari and South Arcot have been handed over to the local boards, on completion of the work of the Labour Department in those taluks.

(*c*) The policy of the Labour Department is to endeavour as far as possible to get the depressed class pupils admitted into the elementary schools already existing in the locality and to open separate schools for them only in places where, owing to caste prejudices, the existing schools are not easily accessible to them or in places where there are no schools.

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(*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) Two representations were received from Mr. Kannan, a member of the District Board and President, Kerala Adi-Dravida Sabha. The Government do not think that the time is ripe for dispensing with separate schools for the depressed classes.

(*f*) The Government have received a copy of the recommendations of a committee appointed by the District Board to consider the question of providing better facilities for Adi-Dravida pupils in schools under it. They have no objection to the provision of such facilities by the Board from its own funds.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With reference to (*a*) will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether and when the Labour Department expects to complete the work in this particular area? "

The Hon. Mr. A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" It is not possible to foretell with any amount of accuracy when the work will be completed."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Government by subsidizing the local boards be able to afford facilities for the Adi-Dravidas? "

The Hon. Mr. A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Not in a place where we ourselves are carrying on the work."

Police

Death of one Nunnu alias Muniyan, whilst in the police lock-up in Maduravayal, Chingleput district.

* 688 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that an Adi-Dravida, Nunnu alias Muniyan, was on the 17th September 1935 arrested and taken for petty theft by a Sub-Inspector and two constables and put into a lock-up at the Mudura-vayal Police station, Poonamallee road, Chingleput district, and that there his dead body was afterwards found hanging by a cloth from the lock-up window;

(*b*) whether there was any guard to watch the prisoner in the lock-up during the night;

(*c*) what the allegations made by Nunnu's relatives were against the Sub-Inspector and two constables;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that Nunnu's relatives presented a petition to the Deputy Superintendent of Police that the body of Nunnu should be sent to the Madras General Hospital for post-mortem examination and not to Poonamalle, because they alleged that the police would influence the medical officer there and obtain a certificate favourable to them;